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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

19 August 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : National Intelligence Officer for Warning

FROM : [REDACTED]
Assistant NIO for East Asia

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SUBJECT : East Asia Warning Assessment

The following items were discussed by the Community Representatives at the 18 August warning meeting.

I. Warning -- There were no warning items in East Asia.

II. Regional Developments

A. CCP 12th Party Congress: This meeting has been so long delayed that its actual holding is anticlimactic in character. Though Deng may say he got less than he wanted, he achieved a major political victory. We look forward to learning whether there will be a major statement of foreign policy and whether major institutional changes and party reform will actually move forward.

B. USN Deployments [REDACTED] The USN activities in the Sea of Japan are allprecedented. Those which have already taken place, including the passage of a carrier task force through the NK Economic Sea Zone, have evoked little NK response. [REDACTED]

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C. Japanese Defense Spending: The problem of "threat definition" for the Japanese continues to effect their projections of force structure and therefore of spending to meet agreed needs. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Japanese force projections for the foreseeable future remain below US estimates of Japanese needs, as has always been the case.

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D. The Japanese Text Book Issue: Changes in text book treatment of Japan's WWII role have been a subject of interest to the political left and right for many years. The most recent changes obscure Japanese aggression and have drawn criticism from Beijing, Taipei, Seoul, Pyongyang and ASEAN capitals. The Japanese MFA wishes to yield to foreign protests while the LDP Right Wing and the Ministry of Education refuse. This is an example of a failure of decisionmaking in Japan, with Beijing attacking Prime Minister Suzuki by name and his trip to China subject to cancellation. The LDP is belatedly moving to resolve the issue.

E. Thai Internal Political Developments: Recent rocket and hand grenade attacks on Prime Minister Prem have occurred in isolation [redacted] [redacted] Speculation includes young officer antipathy to upcoming general officer promotions, though we lack evidence to support this. The Prem government otherwise shows itself as stable up to next year's election.

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III. Plans for Interagency Work -- A/NIO/EA noted the status of the NIE on the Philippines; the SNIE on Indonesia; and the NIEs on ASEAN, the South Pacific, and Japanese Defense.

IV. Regional Policy Issues -- No regional policy issues were discussed.

V. Collection Implications -- No intelligence gaps were noted under this heading.



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